

# Days Escape Lite Wheelchair

## Owner's Manual

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days®

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## Introduction

Welcome to the Days Escape Lite wheelchair and thank you for choosing our product. This latest model has been designed with specific practical user needs in mind. It combines solid, rugged construction, safety and performance. We are confident that it will prove a reliable companion in your home as well as outdoors.

This manual contains some useful tips and information on safety, operation and maintenance. Please read it carefully to ensure that you get maximum enjoyment and benefit from your new independence and mobility.

Whenever you require special advice and attention do not hesitate to contact your local Days wheelchair dealer. They have all the equipment and know-how to provide an expert service and assistance on technical and clinical applications to suit your particular need.

## Intended Use

The Days Escape Lite wheelchairs are intended to assist and improve mobility for those individuals who are less able or have walking difficulties who wish to maintain their independence and freedom.

Your day to day activities will depend on your physical capabilities and your own specific circumstances. If in doubt seek medical advice first.

The information in this booklet provides a general guide on how to use your chair safely and correctly. Do not use the chair without reading this manual first.

## Technical Description

The Days Escape Lite is classified as an 'Invalid Carriage' for use indoors, on pavements, footpaths, pedestrian zones and areas free from motor traffic. Use on the road or highway is not allowed except for the purpose of crossing. The Days Wheelchairs have the following maximum carrying capacity and these must never be exceeded.

- **Attendant Propelled:**

Standard & Narrow	100kg (15½ stone)
Wide	120kg (18½ stone)

- **Self Propelled:**

Standard & Narrow	120kg (18½ stone)
Wide	120kg (18½ stone)

## Feature Guide

### Attendant Propelled



### Self Propelled



## Safety Guidelines

- Do not exceed the stated maximum user weights
- Do not use on the road, except when crossing between pavements. When crossing the carriageway of a public road always take extra care and observe the Highway code
- Do not ride over deep, soft terrain (soft dirt, loose gravel, deep grass)
- Do not attempt to mount a kerb without assistance
- Do not carry passengers
- We recommend that you do not sit on your wheelchair when in a vehicle, but transfer to a vehicle seat
- Always engage a slow speed when going down gradients
- Do not ride in reverse down a slope or kerb
- Do not use on escalators
- Always keep your feet on the footplate when moving
- Do not stand on the footplate when getting in or out of the chair
- We recommend the use of a safety belt
- Ensure all body parts and objects are kept clear and do not get caught in the wheels
- Do not use parts, accessories or adapters other than those authorised by Performance Health International Ltd
- Keep the wheelchair away from children. It is not intended to be used as a toy
- The manual parking brakes are not designed for slowing down

## Safe Operation

When using indoors beware of narrow doors, steps, high surfaces, rugs, protruding wall fittings and everyday household items such as children's toys, electrical appliances etc. Take extra care in kitchen environments.

To ensure stability and safe control you must maintain proper balance at all times. The wheelchair is designed to remain stable during normal use as long as you do not move your centre of gravity outside the normal seating position.

When reaching/bending forward do not lean your body out of the wheelchair further than the length of the armrests. Do not attempt to reach objects by sliding forwards to the edge of the seat.

When reaching/bending backwards do not reach any further than your arm will extend without changing your seating position.

Never attempt to use an escalator or stairway, always use a lift.

Occasionally check that the adjustments of the footrests are secure and are set in the most comfortable position for use.



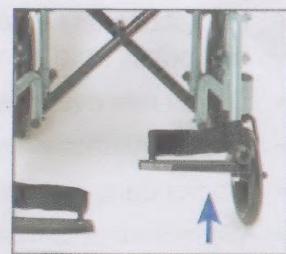
## Adjustment Procedures

### Swing-away Footrest

#### Length Adjustment

Adjustments are made with the user sitting in the wheelchair with feet on footplates.

1. Use a spanner to loosen the bolt at the underside of the footrest support hanger.
2. Adjust the footplate up or down as needed to provide maximum support of thighs on the seat upholstery, then re-tighten the bolt.



### WARNING!

Ensure that desired length adjustment does not cause pressure to legs at front of seat upholstery.

### Seat Belt

Push the two halves of the clip together to close. To separate, squeeze the two tabs on either side of the buckle and pull apart. To adjust the length of the belt, slide the O rings along the length of the webbing.

## Operations of Use

### Footrests

Your footrests are capable of rotating outwards. To achieve this pull the release lever towards you and rotate footrest in the required direction. Lift off from the two pivot points to remove.



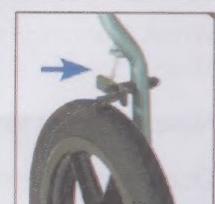
### Parking Brakes

The parking brakes are to be applied manually to the tyres when the chair is parked or stationary. To apply the parking brake in the lock position, push the lever down to the lock position. To release just pull the lever up.



### Cable Brakes

To apply the cable brakes, pull the lever (1) firmly upwards, then push the latch (2) away as indicated opposite whilst simultaneously releasing the lever (1) to lock the brake. This brake may also be used to slow the wheelchair. To release the brake, pull the lever firmly upwards until the latch automatically releases, now release the lever.



Warning! To avoid damage or breakages do not lean downwards on the brake lever!

### Brake Adjustment

The operation of the brakes can be adjusted to suit. Attached to the brake shoe is an adjusting screw which will vary the tension applied to the brake lever (arrowed)



### Folding Back

This is available to reduce the overall height of the chair for storage or transport. Whilst at the rear of the chair, grip the small lever and either push down or press upwards to release the pin allowing the handle section to be folded.

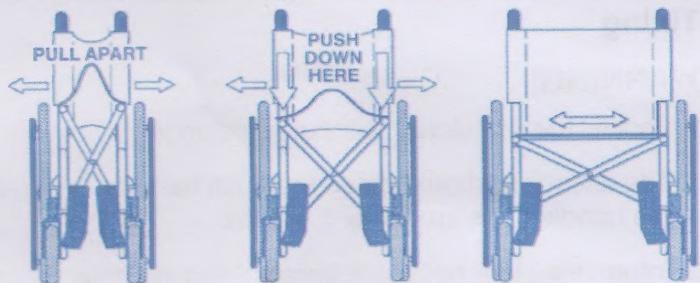
## Folding the Chair

The wheelchair is folded by grasping the seat canvas at the front centre with one hand and at the rear centre with the other. A simple lifting action will draw both sides of the chair together into the folded position.

## Unfolding the Chair

When both wheels have been secured, grasp both side frames of the wheelchair and pull apart as far as possible or at least until there is sufficient room to push down on the sides of the seat canvas.

The chair is fully open when the seat canvas is taut and flat.



## Basic Propulsion (Self-propelled Models)

To move forwards or backwards, the user should release the brakes, grasp the handrims (attached to rear wheels) and with a pushing action rotate them forwards or pull them backwards respectively.

To move to the right, hold the right handrim steady and push forward with the left handrim. To move to the left, hold the left handrim steady and push forward the right handrim.

## Transferring to and from the Chair

Always ensure the parking brakes are applied when transferring to and from the chair.

## Tyres

Regularly check the condition of front & rear tyres for wear and tear. Contact your supplier for replacements.



## Slopes and Gradients

Do not attempt to climb or descend beyond your limitations to avoid tipping over.

During climbing or downwards travel ensure that you sit well into the back of the seat and avoid leaning in the direction of travel. When travelling down or up a slope, avoid sharp turns, zigzag movements or moving across the slope.

Do not hang or store objects, shopping bags on the push handles or on the back of the chair, as this will affect rear stability.

## Wheelchair Assistance

### Practical Use

Many activities require the wheelchair owner to reach, bend and transfer in and out of the wheelchair. These movements will cause a change to the normal balance, the centre of gravity and weight distribution of the wheelchair. To determine and establish your particular safety limits, activities involving reaching, bending and transferring should first be practised with a qualified health care professional.

### Tilting

#### **WARNING!**

Do not tilt the wheelchair without assistance.

1. The attendant should grasp the push handles securely, making sure that the handle grips are firmly attached.
2. Inform the chair occupant before tilting the chair and remind him/her to lean back. Be sure the occupant's feet and hands are clear of all wheels.
3. Place one foot on the tipping lever and apply a continuous motion until the balance point is achieved. At this point, the attendant will feel a difference in weight distribution (this usually occurs at about 14° angle).
4. Turn the wheelchair in the direction required.
5. Lower the front end, placing one foot on the tipping lever and grasping the push handles to slowly lower to the ground.



NOTE: After mastering the techniques of tilting the chair, use this procedure to tackle kerbs, steps, etc.

### Kerbs

1. The attendant should stand on the pavement and turn the chair so that the rear wheels are against the kerb.
2. The chair should be tilted back to the balance point and in one continuous movement, the rear wheels should be pulled up and over the kerb.

NOTE: We recommend that two attendants are utilised for this procedure

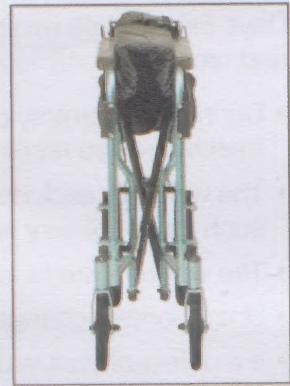


## Transportation

To assist you in storing the chair for transportation: First remove the footrests, fold down the rear push handles and fold the chair as described in earlier paragraph.

Ensure the back upholstery folds to the rear of the chair and in a tidy manner. We recommend that you do not sit on your wheelchair when in a vehicle, but transfer to a vehicle seat.

The self propelled wheelchairs have quick release wheels which may be removed for storage or transportation. See 'Removal and Fitting of Rear Wheels' below.



## Removal of Rear Wheels (Self-propelled Models)

The rear wheels are removed by depressing the pin at the centre of the wheel hub and withdrawing the wheel.

## Fitting Rear Wheels (Self-propelled Models)

The Days Escape Lite wheelchair self-propelled is fitted with quick release rear wheels. It is important to ensure that wheels are correctly fitted to avoid accidents.

To fit rear wheels depress rubber cover at the centre of the wheel hub and push the wheel spindle firmly into the axle bush, ensuring that both ball bearings are fully exposed beyond the axle bush.

Once located, test the wheel for security by pulling the wheel firmly in an attempt to remove it without depressing the rubber cover.

## Maintenance & Inspection

We recommend that your wheelchair is serviced by your local dealer every twelve months (depending on usage). It is in your best interests, not only to ensure your personal safety but also to ensure long life and reliability. Regular service will identify early damage and worn components avoiding unnecessary faults occurring.

### Weekly check that:

- Manual brakes do not rub the tyres and secure the wheel when locked
- Castor bolts are tight and all fasteners are secure
- The drive wheels axles are secure and there is no excessive side movement or binding when spun
- Tyres do not show excessive wear or damage
- Castors have proper tension, i.e. spinning castors should come to gradual stop

### Monthly check that:

- Tyres are not excessively worn
- The chair rolls straight (no excessive drag or pull to one side)
- Pivot points are free of wear or looseness
- Seat and backrest upholstery is not frayed or sagging
- Frames are not worn or bent

## Cleaning

Paintwork and plastic mouldings can be cleaned with a soft cloth with warm soapy water. Do not use any harsh abrasive cleaners, bleach base fluids or solvents.

Seat and back upholstery can be cleaned with a general purpose upholstery cleaner or sponged with warm soapy water.

## **Warranty Information**

Days Escape Lite wheelchairs are warranted for 24 months from the date of purchase, on the frame and crossbars only.

- During the warranty period any parts that have become defective due to faulty workmanship or material will be repaired or replaced without charge by a Days supplier/dealer
- The warranty excludes tyres, punctures and items that become worn due to normal wear and tear such as upholstery and armrest pads
- The warranty excludes all items that have been subject to undue wear and tear and misuse
- Unauthorised changes or modifications will forfeit your warranty
- If a defect or fault is discovered, the Days supplier/dealer from whom the wheelchair was purchased should be notified immediately
- The maximum user weight is 100kg (15 $\frac{3}{4}$  stone) for narrow and standard attendant chairs and 120kg (18 $\frac{3}{4}$  stone) for the wide attendant and all self propelled chairs.

## **Limitation of Liability**

The warranty does not extend to the consequential costs resulting from fault clearance, in particular freight and travel costs, loss of earnings, expenses, etc.

The manufacturer will not accept responsibility for any damage or injury caused by misuse or non-observance of the instructions set out in this user manual.

**Notes:**

Your Authorised Dealer

These user instructions are available in large print, please contact Performance Health Customer Services for a copy.  
Please retain these instructions for future reference.

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